

REMARKS

Claim 3 has been canceled. Claims 1, 4, and 5 have been amended, and claims 6-13 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1-2 and 4-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takano (US 6,212,231 B1) in view of Kitajima (JP 06027932 A).

Amended independent claim 1 recites in part the following:

"storage means . . . for allocating addresses to said video data inputted by said input means in an ascending order such that each said Y macroblock is allocated a first number of ascending order addresses and each said Cb macroblock and Cr macroblock is allocated a second number of ascending order addresses in which the second number is different than the first number. . .

wherein the first number of ascending order addresses of a respective Y macroblock are arranged in a line or row and the second number of ascending order addresses of each of a respective Cb macroblock and Cr macroblock are arranged in a line or a row such that when one macroblock of video data is read out from said storage means by the reading means a switch between lines or rows does not occur for both (i) the respective Y macroblock and (ii) the respective Cb and Cr macroblocks."

In explaining the above 102 rejection with regard to claim 1, the Examiner appears to indicate that the storage means for allocating addresses is disclosed by Takano and, in particular by the SDRAM 13 of Figure 1, line 65 of column 3 to line 10 of column 4, and lines 44-51 of column 8 thereof. It is respectfully submitted that such portions of Takano (hereinafter

merely "Takano") do not specifically disclose the above features of claim 1.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is distinguishable from the combination of Takano and Kitajima applied by the Examiner.

For reasons similar to those previously described with regard to claim 1, it is also respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 4 and 5 are distinguishable from the combination of Takano and Kitajima applied by the Examiner.

Claim 2 is dependent from independent claim 1. Accordingly, it is also respectfully submitted that dependent claim 2 is distinguishable from the combination of Takano and Kitajima applied by the Examiner for at least the reasons previously described.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending non-withdrawn claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of these claims and to pass this application to issue.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

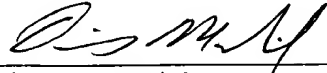
Application No.: 09/719,452

Docket No.: SONYSU 3.3-113

If there are any charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

Dennis M. Smid

Registration No.: 34,930

LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,

KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP

600 South Avenue West

Westfield, New Jersey 07090

(908) 654-5000

Attorney for Applicants

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